

THE C4 NEWSLETTER

Colonial Coin Collectors Club



New Jersey Obverse 73.5

Spring 2001

Volume 9 Number 1

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Secretary: John Lorenzo

Membership questions, address changes, and dues should be sent to Angel Pietri at the address listed above. Dues are \$20-regular, \$10 for junior members (under 18), \$25-1st class mailing of newsletter, \$400 for Life Membership (or 4 quarterly payments of \$100).



Angel Pietri, Russell Easterbrooks, Tom Madigan

Articles, letters for publication, and ads should be sent to Angel Pietri, Russell Easterbrooks

Tom Madigan

or to

your Regional Vice President.

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Librarian: Steve Tanenbaum

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Classified Ads

Ads for this newsletter can be purchased as follows:

	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues	Copy size
1 page	\$50	\$75	\$125	4-1/2"x 7-1/2"
½ page	30	45	75	4-1/2"x 3-3/4"

If you want to include a photo with your ad at an additional \$10. Black and white photo needed, size can be adjusted to fit. Please send check with your ad. We can accept camera ready copy or any Microsoft Word compatible computer file.

All members also have the right to include a free classified ad in the newsletter of up to 13 lines.



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Message from the President

Ray Williams

I guess you can look at the President's Message as a sort of state of the Sale Address. From where I'm looking, colonial numismatics is popular and growing. C4 membership is increasing. We had a tremendously successful convention and auction this past November. The Stack's O'Donnell Sale in January brought record prices for NJ Coppers. In March, for the first time in decades, we saw plated colonials in an EAC Sale catalog (I cherish my '75 and '76 catalogs!). A major West Coast auction house has been attributing their colonial lots. Reference books for several colonial series will be ready in the foreseeable future. The C4 Library is

growing and will be more easily accessible in the near future. As of March, C4 already has a core consignment of colonials for this year's auction! Our treasury is sound and substantial. Both the C4 and Colonial e-groups have an active participation. All is well with C4 – thank you officers and membership!

My only disappointments at this time are that Angel has expressed a desire to step down as editor of the C4 Newsletter, and that a C4 web site is not up and running yet. Angel has given us years of tireless service as our President, Editor and Treasurer. At the November 2000 convention, he expressed a desire to resign as editor but was willing to continue for a while until a replacement could be found. As of now, no volunteer has stepped forward. If you wish to be considered, please contact any club officer.

At the EAC Convention in Fredericksburg, C4 had a well-attended club meeting at 9:00 Saturday AM. The better part of the meeting was spent talking about the web site. Two web committee members were present, posed questions to the membership, listened to suggestions, and hopefully will get this project off the ground soon.

My goal as president is to keep C4 as the informal, friendly and scholarly organization it has been to date. Let's continue to have fun collecting and researching colonial coins and their history. FUN is the operative word – if there's no fun, why do it? Share what you know and collect with others. Bring a few of your coins to the convention this November – compare them to dealer's inventories and what others own. What good do the coins do if they sit in a safe deposit box and don't see the light of day until your family sells them in your estate? Continue to share your passion for your hobby with others and I know that C4 will continue to be a healthy, vital organization.



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Minutes of C4 Meeting at EAC Convention

By Stan Stephens

The following people attended the 9:00am, Saturday, C4 meeting at EAC, 2001. Considering that EAC neglected to include our meeting in the activity list that was handed out at registration we still had almost a 100% turnout. I think Neil Rothschild was the only C4 member that failed to hear about it.

Ray Williams
Robert Martin
Tom Madigan
Alan Anthony
John Griffie
Dave Palmer
Stan Stephens
Bob Rankin
Angel Petri
Tom Rinaldo
Mikael Spencer
Mike Briston
Bijan Anvar
Mary Sauvain
Steve Ellsworth
John Kraljevich

Tom Rinaldo suggested that we invite Eric Newman to talk at C4 2001. We would offer to pay his expenses. Tom also suggested that Dave Bowers would be a good choice as a speaker.

Tom also reported on the upcoming auction this November at C4 2001. M&G has secured a strong Vermont collection (33 varieties) to be the cornerstone of the auction. The official consignment deadline is ANA 2001. Tom noted that it would be wise to consign by that date, and that afterwards it will be a arbitrary decision by M&G to accept any consignments. Tom feels M&G will get a lot of good material for the sale.

Ray Williams reminded us that we need a C4 newsletter editor to replace Angel Pietri. Angel is staying in the job until a suitable replacement can be found.

Angel reported that we have around 325 active members in C4.

Steve Ellsworth introduced a local digger by the name of Frank Demners. Frank recently found a decent VF Virginia halfpence on the grounds of the Heritage Baptist Church in Federicksburg, Va. The coin was found obverse up.

The C4 2001 educational seminar forum was discussed and it was suggested that Hibernias would be a good topic. Syd Martin gave a talk on Hibernias at the first C4 convention in 1995.

The New Jersey condition census project that is currently being managed by Ray Williams and published in each issue of Penny Wise was once again discussed. Ray feels that it should continue as is. John Griffiee, the person that started the project, agreed. However there was sentiment expressed by others that some kind of report should also be printed in the C4 journal. What form this report might take was kicked around by several people but no consensus was reached.

Ray briefly discussed the online efforts of colonial numismatists to raise money for Byron Weston's brother, Grant. Ray reported we raised about \$2500. This includes the money made by selling some donated coins on ebay. It was noted that the one of the winners donated the coin back to Ray to be put back up on ebay to be sold again.

Hospitality night at C4 2001 was discussed and Angel reported that with the donations we received and then calculating other costs, C4 essentially broke even for Thursday night last year. It was agreed that we need to do something similar for this year.

Finally Ray brought up the issue of our website. Two members of the website committee, Bijan and myself reported on the progress

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that has been made thus far. The committee has come up with a basic architecture that can be our starting point. We still will need to come up with solid content for the site. There was a lot of discussion on what the website should actually do and be. Ray is very interested in getting at least one page (temporary) online that tells people what we are, what we do, and how one can join our club. Bijan volunteered to quickly come up with such a temporary page and link it to his website. (This is currently being discussed by the website committee). It was noted by Angel that we are blessed with a strong treasury and that we can afford to do this. However, members at the meeting also wanted us to spend money for this project wisely. We could end up paying for web page templates and ISP service and still lack adequate content for the site.

We adjourned in general agreement that C4 is doing fine and all look forward to the next convention.



C4 Library

By Leo Shane

Below is a listing of items we have in the C4 Library. To borrow an item, please send a check payable to Leo Shane 1130 Woods Lane, Warminster Pa. 18974. Please include your address and an E mail and/or phone number in case I need to contact you. All data is strictly confidential. The loan period is 30 days after you receive the book (Honor System). You are responsible for the safe and timely return of the book to the library. I have estimated the cost of postage for each item. This should be a break even situation. I will adjust it if it gets too much one way or the other. Book rate will take about one week after I put it in the mail. First class is approximately 2 days.

At this time I'd like to solicit donations for the library. Now is the time to put those books you haven't used in a while to good use. Any contribution relating to the colonial or confederation period

will be greatly appreciated and will be enjoyed by fellow club members. Also, I would like to have 2 copies of the C4 auction catalogs and C4 newsletters for the library. Please check below to see what we already have. I have indicated those items that we have 1 copy of but would like a second. For all those not listed, we do not have any copies.

I will do my best to get your requests out in a timely fashion. If you are desperate for something, please E mail me as I check this frequently. Any suggestions and comments are appreciated. My E mail is LEO.J.SHANE@honeywell.com

Items Currently in the C4 Library:

\$3 Book Rate / \$6 First Class Postage Each Item:

Adams, John W., *United States Numismatic Literature Volume 1, 19th Century Auction Catalogs*, Mission Viejo CA, 1982

Adams, John W., *United States Numismatic Literature Volume 2, 20th Century Auction Catalogs*, Crestline CA, 1990

Crosby, Sylvester S., *The Early Coins of America*, Lawrence MA, 1974

Binder of Material Presented at The Third NJ Copper Symposium, Held in conjunction with the First Annual C4 Convention – 20 October 1995, (Includes Walter Breen's 1955 Unpublished Manuscript on NJs as interpreted by Ray Williams)

\$2 Book Rate / \$4 First Class Postage Each Item:

Betts, Wyllys C., *American Colonial History Illustrated By Contemporary Medals*, Boston MA, 1972

Clarke, Herman Fredrick, *John Hull A Builder Of The Bay Colony*, Wolfeboro NH, 1993

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Newman, Eric P. and Richard G. Doty, *Studies On Money In Early America*, New York NY, 1976

Vlack, Robert A., *Early American Coins*, Johnson City NY, 1965

VHS Movie: *Collecting Colonial Coins*, Mary Sauvain, 1994 Long Beach Expo Educational Seminar

VHS Movie: *Money – History In Your Hands*, James Earl Jones, 1995 ANA / PNG Production

VHS Movie: *New Jersey, Connecticut, Vermont, Massachusetts*, Educational Forum 1996 Second Annual C4 Convention

VHS Movie: *Collecting Colonials – Dan Freidus, Grading Colonials – Bobby Martin*, Educational Forum 1997 Third Annual C4 Convention

VHS Movie: *New Jersey Symposium*, Educational Forum 1997 Third Annual C4 Convention

VHS Movie: *Machin Mills, Vermont, Massachusetts Silver, Massachusetts Copper, Connecticut*, Educational Forum 1997 Third Annual C4 Convention

VHS Movie: *The Stepney Hoard Of Connecticut Coppers – Forty Eight Years After The Fact – Dr. Philip Mossman*, Inaugural Groves Forum – ANS, 18 April 1998

\$2 Book Rate / \$4 First Class Postage For 1 or 2 Items:

Greenword, Malachy, *A Journey Through The Monkalokian Rain Forests In Search Of The Spiney Fubbaduck*, (1993 Study Of Regal Imitations, Lightweight Tokens and Various Medalllets Circulated In The Later Part Of The 18th Century)

Newman, Eric P., *Coinage For Colonial Virginia*, New York NY, 1956

Newman, Eric P., *The Secret Of The Good Samaritan Shilling*, New York NY, 1959

Auction Catalog: *Pine Tree Auction Co., EAC Sale Cataloged by Walter Breen*, (Includes The Connecticut Collection), 15 January 1975, Albertson NY

Auction Catalog: *Mayflower Coin Auctions, Mr. C.H. Stearns Collection Of Colonial US And Canadian Coins*, 2-3 December 1966, Boston MA

Auction Catalog: *Second Annual C4 Convention Sale – Scott Barnes Collection*, 12 October 1996, Pensauken NJ

Auction Catalog: *Third Annual C4 Convention Sale*, 8 November 1997, Boston MA
(Need a second copy)

Auction Catalog: *Fifth Annual C4 Convention Sale*, 6 November 1999, Boston MA
(Need a second copy)

Auction Catalog: *Sixth Annual C4 Convention Sale – Machin Mills Coinage*, 18 November 2000, Boston MA
(Need a second copy)

Price List: *Colonial And Continental Currency*, Denly's Of Boston, 1994, Boston MA

Colonial Newsletter: Issues #1 (Oct 1960) to #103 (Sept 1996)
Note: Issues #1 to #8 are very short and count as 1 item for postage purposes, all others are 1 issue 1 item)

C4 Newsletter: The Following Issues are in the Library and available for loan

Spring, 2001

- Vol 2 No. 4 Christmas 1994 (Need a second copy)
- Vol 3 No. 1 March 1995
- Vol 3 No. 3 Fall 1995 (Need a second copy)
- Vol 3 No. 4 Winter 1996
- Vol 4 No. 1 Spring 1996
- Vol 4 No. 2 Fall 1996
- Vol 4 No. 3 Winter 1997
- Vol 5 No. 1 Spring 1997
- Vol 5 No. 4 Winter 1997
- Vol 6 No. 1 Spring 1998
- Vol 6 No. 2 Summer 1998
- Vol 6 No. 3 Fall 1998
- Vol 6 No. 4 Winter 1998
- Vol 7 No. 1 Spring 1999
- Vol 7 No. 2 Summer 1999
- Vol 7 No. 3 Fall 1999
- Vol 7 No. 4 Winter 1999
- Vol 8 No. 1 Spring 2000
- Vol 8 No. 2 Summer 2000
- Vol 8 No. 3 Fall 2000



Brief Summary of Recent Threads on the C4 eGroups

by Robert Merchant

- The Egroups.com business has been purchased by Yahoo.com, and the “E-Groups” are now called “Yahoo Groups”. To join either or both of the C4-sponsored Yahoo Groups, just point your browser to <http://groups.yahoo.com/> , and follow the directions for starting a new account.
- Jim Spilman mentioned that new Colonial coin images are being posted at the Notre Dame web site (<http://www.coins.nd.edu/>), including several Connecticut, New Jersey, and Fugio coppers. This is really becoming one of the best numismatic sites on the Internet!

- Neil Rothschild mentioned that he has been maintaining an archive of c4online and colonial-coins digests. He may create a searchable database of all the posts at some time in the future if the need exists.
- The next C4 Convention is slated for November 8-9-10-11, 2001 in Boston. It will be held in conjunction with the Bay States Coin Show as usual.
- A lot of discussion surrounded the recent Stack's and Bowers & Merena auctions of Early American coins. The Stack's sale offered a superb collection of New Jersey coppers and the Bowers & Merena sale offered the best selection of "Bett's" medals to be seen in a long time. Michael Hodder was able to give the e-group an advanced notice of the Stack's sale. The prices realized from these sales make the Red Book prices look like cheap bargains.
- Mike Wierzba said that C-4 has given him and the business he represents, MiM Productions, the go ahead to begin production on a web-site for C-4. It is not yet known when the site will be ready for visitors. Dan Freidus stated that a committee was set up to decide what should go on the web site and then to arrange to have it built. The C-4 committee consists of Dan Freidus, Peter Griffin, Syd Martin, and Stan Stephens.
- There was a good amount of discussion concerning whether or not the New Jersey Condition Census (NJCC) should be published in the C4 Newsletter as opposed to the EAC Penny Wise, where it has been published for years. Some people felt that it should be moved to the C4 Newsletter, others felt that it should stay in the EAC Penny Wise journal.
- Buell Ish expressed his concerns about the three display case limit for coin exhibits that is imposed on us at the C4 Convention. It is not known if we will have more tables this year or not.
- Mike Hodder mentioned that the special edition hardcover Perkins Sale book is ready for shipping. The price is \$125 + \$3.50 shipping.
- A chat room has been set up for the C4 e-groups. The chat

meetings are currently held irregularly on Sunday nights.

- Several donations, raffles, and coin auctions were held in support of Byron Weston's brother Grant, who suffered a debilitating injury on his farm in Pennsylvania. Dan Freidus wrote about this in one of his Coin World "Colonial Americana" articles.
- A couple of annoying viruses made their way onto the C4 e-groups as e-mail attachments, but no serious harm was done as far as is known, and there are no remaining viruses as of this writing. Dan Freidus's solution to the virus problem: "Get a Mac[intosh]".
- Byron Weston announced that the "Cobwright" monograph on Evasion Coppers has been reprinted again and is available to C4 members for purchase. Those interested should contact Bill McKivor.
- Byron has continued to post several very interesting images of counterfeit British Halfpence. Byron also mentioned that the digital images he has been posting were taken by Gary Trudgen.
- Louis Jordan has posted a lengthy dissertation entitled "Chronological list of documents and events relating to the Massachusetts mint" on the Notre Dame web site (<http://www.coins.nd.edu/>). Lou discovered that the NEGHS owns the original account books of John Hull, as well as several other Hull documents. This is just a glimpse of what is still "out there" waiting to be discovered.
- Chris Stevens ("Noel oak"), recently discovered newspaper advertisements by Jacob Perkins of Newburyport, Mass. One of the advertisements was found in the January 10, 1800 issue of the [??? and Country Gazette] newspaper (see the illustration). The ad is transcribed as follows: "Jacob Perkins TAKES leave to inform the public that he will now be able to answer orders for the Medals in memory of the late illustrious Gen. WASHINGTON, from any part of the continent, and to any a mount, executed on Gold, Silver, or White Metal, with punctuality and dispatch--from 3 to 5 thousand can be made daily. A liberal discount will be made

FRIDAY, JAN

and Country Gazette

AT HIS OFFICE NORTH CORNER of Market-Square

Jacob Perkins

TAKES leave to inform the public that he will now be able to accept orders for the Medals in memory of the late illustrious Gen. WASHINGTON, from any part of the continent, and to any amount, executed on Gold, Silver, or White Metal, with punctuality and dispatch—from 5 to 5 thousand can be made daily.

A liberal discount will be made to those who purchase quantities to sell again.

Jan. 7.

Recruiting

WANTED immediate of healthy young Marines, on board the 1—all who are willing to ply to the Subscriber, & be entitled to 4 dollars—rals to 8—Music to 7—fides clothing, provide arms—Music is particular.

to those who purchase quantities to sell again. Jan. 7". It would be interesting to learn more about Perkins stated ability to manufacture thousands of medals on a daily basis.

- There was some discussion about which "Colonial" auction catalogues are the most valuable for taking to coin shows. Since they are so heavy, many collectors and at least one dealer "cut out" the Colonial sections of the best catalogues and take them to shows. Don Scarinci posted the following list of catalogues that he finds useful: Groves, Jay, New Netherlands, Garrett, Picker 1 & 2, Roper, Robison, Norweb, Taylor, Oeschner, Steinberg, Eliasberg, Stacks Americana [2000, 2001], Henry Garrett (Four Seasons). To that we

could add several others of course. It would be a worthwhile contribution if someone could take the time to put together a list of the most useful auction catalogues for each series of Colonial and Confederation coinage.

- Mike Hodder told the group that the fabled Bowers & Merena "Colonial" book was actually his project. However, the project died when he left the firm, and the work that had been completed is now out-of-date. Mike also mentioned that he was working on a Massachusetts Silver book, but it is also on "indefinite hold".
- There was quite a bit of discussion about the amazing Stack's O'Donnell sale prices realized. Prices were so high that everyone suddenly wanted to talk about the "good old days".
- Neil Rothschild posted some of his rarity rating research notes, and Phil Mossman followed up with some comments, as did several others. Research has shown that the Maris 56-n (NJ) and the Miller 4-L (Conn.) are the most common Confederation-era coins, in that order.
- Byron Weston and Mike Hodder briefly discussed a most interesting topic that is not often talked about -- What coins circulated alongside the early U.S. Mint coinage? Mike's response was: "As for what was in circ[ulation] when the plated 1804 cent was, it sure wasn't large cents! What was it? I don't think anyone knows completely. From what I've read, the coinage (as opposed to paper currency, which took up the slack to some degree) medium consisted of anything that was round, thinnish, and looked like a coin. Including UK stuff mostly. Remember when copper became legal tender. Until then, no one was obligated by law to accept coppers. Those that did were striking a private bargain with the tenders. Thus, anything coin-like could pass." Dave Palmer added "By the time the 1804 large cent was put in circulation, the mint had been cranking out cents and half cents for 11 years. The coppers panic had already happened, the Bank of New York had already put the kegs of Fugios away for safe keeping. I would suspect that what was the main copper coinage in circulation would depend on what

part of the country you were in, but, in New York and other major cities of the northeast corridor, I would think it was federal coinage.” There probably exists contemporary documentation that will solve this perplexing mystery, but as yet it has not been found. Phil Mossman then reminded us that he published his findings on this subject in his book, page 259.

- There were over fifty (50) posted messages discussing planchet cutter marks on coins. A lot of very interesting information was posted, and several personal opinions were shared. Anyone who is interested in this topic should take the time to review the relevant messages.
- Punch links (primarily of the letter type) were also discussed, and many people gave their opinion about how valuable of a research tool they are. Syd Martin contributed the following: “I think punch links are good indicators depending on how they are used. Some observable artifacts can be caused by bad / defective / unique matrices, some can come from dies touched up during their use, while others can only realistically come from unique punches due to injuries they sustain after manufacture. Understanding how these observable artifacts come about can in fact tell a lot about how different coins [and] series relate.”

This summary stopped at message #3340 (colonial-coins) and #536 (c4online).

The first e-mail address is "colonial_coins@egroups.com". To register and join, simply navigate to the following page: <http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/colonial-coins>. You will have to register and then subscribe -- it's easy. This e-mail group is open to the whole public. A separate e-mail group for C4 members only has also been started. To register and join go to <http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/C4online>. The e-mail address is C4online@egroups.com.



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C4 Items for Sale

The Copper Coins of Vermont

And Those Bearing The Vermont Name

by Tony Carlotto

Regular edition price \$50 (add \$3 for shipping)

Send orders to:

John Lorenzo



C4 Convention Items for Sale

Hardbound Scott Barnes Catalogs \$50

Hardbound Third, Fourth, and Fifth C4 Convention Catalogues \$50/ea.

Call or write Ray Williams if you are interested.

Add \$3 postage and handling. All will be sent uninsured at buyer's risk. If you want insurance, add an appropriate amount. Please forward your check to Ray, payable to C4, at the address below.

Ray Williams



Fugio Plates (NEW)

Several copies of the Fugio obverses and reverses will be made available for sale at \$25 each set. They consist of three 8"X10" plates made from the original negatives used by Eric Newman for his book. They were made available to C4 courtesy of the Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society. If you want a copy, contact Ray Williams.

The Richard Picker Collection Lot Envelopes

Stack's has provided C4 with Picker's own customized envelopes from his collection sold in October 1984. They are available from the club for \$5 each if you can show adequate proof that you own the coin. This \$5 donation is for the club's treasury, thanks to Stack's. All unsold envelopes will be returned to Stack's. If you own any of these coins and would like to own the envelope, contact Ray Williams.



LaRiviere Collection Breaks Records

Indian Peace, Betts Medals See Active Bidding in Baltimore
Press release by Bowers and Merena Galleries

Baltimore, March 17: Bowers and Merena Galleries announces the results of the sale of the American medal collection of Lucien M. LaRiviere. A crowded gallery assembled to witness the offering of the first section of the finest cabinet of American reference medals from the colonial period since Wayte Raymond sold the collection of W.W.C. Wilson in 1925 and 1926. Collectors excitedly competed for an impressive selection of Indian peace medals and medals listed in C. Wyllys Betts century-old American History as Illustrated by Contemporary Medals, the standard reference for American reference medals of the period. Medals presented in this auction included medals related to the colonization of North America, John Law's "Mississippi Bubble Scheme," the French and Indian War, the travels of Captain James Cook, and more.

The Friday evening session began with LaRiviere's collection of Indian peace medals, which included both French and English issues given as diplomatic gifts to the native peoples of what would become the United States and Canada. A George I peace medal in copper, Betts-165, elicited gasps of surprise from those assembled as it soared to a sale price of \$18,400 after opening at \$4,600. Only three lots later, a floor battle ensued as a high quality specimen of the extremely rare 1757 peace medal issued by the Quakers of

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Pennsylvania was offered for the first time since in 70 years. After opening at \$4,600, the medal surpassed even optimistic estimates and sold for a remarkable \$52,900 to well-deserved applause. The excitement over LaRiviere's peace medals continued, as a George III undated peace medal issued between 1776 and 1814 brought \$21,850 and a specimen of the very rare George III "Lion and Wolf" peace medal realized \$33,350. A grouping of Canadian peace medals was highlighted by the 1872 medal delivered to chiefs of the Northwest Territories, which brought \$18,400 on the floor. The crowd awaited the end of the Indian peace medal offering with great anticipation, as two very rare and important Thomas Jefferson peace medals were offered to an excited audience. The first, a small size silver shells specimen, realized \$36,800 to a phone bidder. The final Indian peace medal was arguably the collection's greatest highlight: a large format Thomas Jefferson Indian peace medal featured as the plate piece in Father Francis Paul Prucha's Indian Peace Medals in American History. With numerous bidders on the phone and several active on the floor, the medal climbed from its open at \$20,000 to an amazing realization of \$115,000, a new world's record for an American medal.

The first section of LaRiviere's Betts medal collection followed as Q. David Bowers, president of Bowers and Merena Galleries, yielded the auctioneer's podium. Ten medals relating to the rise and fall of John Law, the largest such selection in decades, brought prices befitting the collection's importance, with a specimen of Betts-122 selling for \$4,830 on the floor. Admiral Vernon medals, relatively common emissions that followed the adventures of Admiral Edward Vernon in Panama and Columbia in 1739, were very well represented by extraordinarily high quality pieces. With active floor bidding, each piece sold for multiples of their estimates and shocked many of those gathered. It is doubtful if a Vernon medal has ever sold for over \$1000 before; LaRiviere's collection saw that level reached no less than nine times.

On the heels of the Vernon medals, the advanced specialists were brought back to attention with the offering of a 1746 Tuesday Club of Annapolis medal, the first medal ever made exclusively for

distribution in America. This specimen, the only issued example in private hands, opened at an impressive \$48,000; the mention of the number from the podium at the front of the room drew aural expressions of surprise from the crowd. It sold on the floor for \$57,500, a new record for a Betts medal that would soon be eclipsed. Just eight lots later, a 1756 Kittanning Destroyed medal was offered for sale. The Kittanning Destroyed is considered the first medal ever designed and struck in what would become the United States. It was issued by the city of Philadelphia as an expression of thanks to the officers under Colonel John Armstrong who destroyed the Indian stronghold on the Pennsylvania frontier during the French and Indian War. After opening at \$8,000, floor bidders soon took control of the attention of all gathered, with several bidders jumping bids and gesticulating wildly, thinking and nodding, until a new record stood at \$66,700 and the mounting tension was broken by applause. This set the tone for the French and Indian War medals that would follow it. A copper specimen of the 1758 Louisbourg Destroyed medal, Betts-411, hammered down to the floor for \$3,680. It was followed by a superb specimen of the 1758 Oswego Captured medal that also sold to the floor for \$5,980. The prized gold specimen of the 1759 Quebec Taken medal, one of only three known, sold for \$23,000. An equally rare 1763 Charleston Social Club medal realized \$19,550, and a 1772 "Botetourt" medal issued by the College of William and Mary brought \$12,650.

The medals of Captain James Cook captured the attention of the crowd, as phone bidders and floor participants battled for a superlative grouping of medals issued for distribution to the natives of the South Pacific and in commemoration of Cook's voyages and death in Hawaii in 1778. A silver specimen of the 1772 "Resolution and Adventure" medal, struck for distribution to V.I.P.s at the time, sold to a mail bidder for \$7,820. Three medals distributed by Cook and his men during their second and third voyages realized prices from \$3,105 to \$5,980, and an extremely rare Betts-554, the first numismatic mention of the Hawaiian Island, surprised those gathered as it sold for \$9,200.

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With the surprising prices attained for the first section of LaRiviere's medals, the numismatic community looks excitedly towards May 21 to 23, when the third and final section of the LaRiviere medals will be offered in New York. This section will include medals relating to the earliest colonization of the New World and the American Revolution.

Non-medallic issues also brought high prices in Baltimore. A rare 1794 dollar, certified AU-55 by NGC and pedigreed back to 1864, led all federal coins with a sale price of \$132,250. Early gold also did well, with an AU-55 1795 Heraldic Eagle \$5 selling for \$41,400 and a 1795 Small Eagle \$10 in AU-55 (PCGS) bringing \$28,750. An 1838 half eagle from the Charlotte Mint, certified AU-55 by PCGS, sold for \$18,400. An AU-50 MCMVII (1907) High Relief \$20 outpaced estimates at \$8,625, and a 1925-S California commemorative half dollar, MS-67 (PCGS), brought a surprising \$6,612.50. Franklin half dollars continued to excel in Bowers and Merena auctions, with a 1949-S certified MS-67 FBL (PCGS) selling for \$8,050. Early American coins also saw spirited bidding as an EF-40 1776 Continental dollar sold for \$10,062.50 and a 1800 half cent, MS-64 RD (NGC), sold for \$10,925. Additionally, a rare silver 1801 Jefferson Inaugural medal sold for a remarkable \$23,000.



Letters to the editor

Whatever Happened to Wood's Money

By Brian J. Danforth, Ph.D.

Phillip L. Mossman in his letter to the editor in the last issue of The C4 Newsletter in response to my article entitled "Wood's Money: Acceptance or Rejection in Ireland" raised the interesting question as to what happened to about 40,000 *L* of Wood's Hibernias that were authorized for Ireland. Although only a partial answer can be given at this point, several broad brushstrokes can be made as to the fate of these coins.

(1) Woods Money was exported in quantity to the American colonies as a result of three factors. The first was incidental commerce. A more important factor was a result of immigration as the Irish fled their homeland during periods of famine and economic dislocation during the late 1720's and 1730's, and most significantly after Wood's coppers were semi-demonetized in 1736-1737. This led to their general export, primarily to the Mid-Atlantic region. For a discussion of this event, I refer you to my forthcoming article in the Colonial Newsletter entitled: "Wood's Hibernia Coins Come to America."

(2) Not all Wood's Hibernias went to Ireland. Some stayed in England. As reported in the Daily Journal (London) in October 3, 1723, people were using Wood's coppers "in the nature British Half-pence." As one contemporary, George Ewing, reported in 1724, "Wood's Half-pence...have obtained a Sort of Currency, not only in many Parts of the Country, but even in London..." As an example, I obtained from Tom Rinaldo by way of A.H. Baldwin & Sons a Wood's Hibernia Halfpenny that was recovered from the banks of the Thames River near the Parliament building. Also, as noted by Daniel Defoe, who was a defender of Wood's Patent, Irish coppers in the course of trade would be sent from Ireland to England. The currency of Wood's Money in England was due to a shortage of coppers similar to that affecting the American colonies and other British territories. The eventual fate of these coins is presently unknown, however, it can be reasonably assumed that many found their way to the American colonies after their replacement by more desirable regal issued coppers.

(3) Wood's contemporaries noted that if the number of Wood's coins in Ireland became too numerous (any amount imported in excess of between 20,000 *L* and 30,000 *L* would have been more than was needed by the Irish) they would be sent to the "Plantations." While this would have included the American colonies, it also encompassed the British West Indies. James Maculla, who in 1728 produced a series of Irish coppers as an alternative to Wood's Money, stated that many of Wood's Hibernias

would be "Ship'd off to other Countries." Defoe identified "the West-Indies" as one of the specific destinations. John Oldmixon in his 1741 book on the British colonies stated that it was common to buy up "Light Pieces, and those of baser Alloy(sic)... from England and send them to Barbados...." While Wood's Hibernias were not mentioned specifically, the light weight and base metal description within the author's time frame would have certainly pertained to non-regal coppers such as Wood's. In all probability, many of these coppers found their way north to the American colonies in the course of trade between these two regions.

(4) One final fate in store for numerous Wood's coins was given by Maculla who stated that many would be melted down to Divurs (sic) uses.... Defoe concurred with this assessment given that there was a periodic shortage of copper. This fate may correlate to that provided in numismatic literature to explain the scarcity of Higley Coppers, although there is a significant difference in mintage between these two coin types.

(5) Another final fate for Woods Money would be that many, as noted by Maculla, were "lost". Non-specific recovered Wood's Hibernias can be seen at many coin shows. Mossman is compiling a documented inventory of such finds which he displayed in the April, 2000 issue of The Colonial Newsletter. Other finds from archaeological sites are beginning to be noted by numismatists. As interest in Wood's Money mounts, other documented finds shall be reported, heightening the importance of this category.

The limited number of Wood's Hibernias in hoards is consistent with a general analysis of recovered copper coins as noted in I.D. Brown and Michael Dolley, Coin Hoards of Great Britain and Ireland: 1850-1967. For deposited hoards in Ireland from 1722 through 1800, only one small find is listed that contained a deposit of English and Irish George I coppers. This scarcity of copper coin finds, in my opinion, speaks to the view that coppers, because of their low value and bulk, were not generally secreted by hoarders at that time.

It is always appreciated by a researcher to receive commentary on their work, especially when it raises interesting questions such as those put forth by Mossman in his letter to the editor. While I hope that I have shed some light on the issue as to what happened to 40,000 L. of Wood's coppers, I am sure that my brief answer is not definitive. Rather, I hope that my references herein stimulate further research into these fascinating coins, adding to our knowledge of the American colonial monetary system.



All in Perspective

Recently, I was reminded of how colonial coppers, the coins we love so dearly, look to others. My 5 1/2 year old son Arthur told me he found a coin on the kitchen floor. I could see he was holding a Lincoln cent.

I asked him, "Is it mine?"

Arthur's answer, "No, it's shiny."

Well, he had me there. He got to keep the coin.

Buell Ish



NJ Coppers: A New Variety Illustrated, Maris 73.5-jj

By Richard August and Dennis Wierzba

At the time of the Garrett sale, Richard August was able to visit a number of local NYC coin shops prior to the auction. As luck (and persistence) would have it, he was able to uncover and purchase an unlisted NJ variety. Richard Picker verified the new discovery and immediately tried to purchase it. No sale, as the coin still resides in



the August collection. Angel Pietri was able to photograph it in November, 20 years after the discovery.

The August coin has both a new obverse and reverse. The obverse resembles the 73 obverse and merits the 73.5 name in the Maris tradition. After showing the discovery coin to Bill Anton on two occasions, Bill agreed that the obverse was new, but insisted the reverse was “aa”. It is true that the portions of the reverse that are visible are very similar to the “aa”. Careful examination, however, shows it to be different (one of the points of the star on the “aa” reverse points to the top of U of UNUM, the “jj” does not). Recognizing this as a new reverse, Richard August used the “kk” appellation when discussing the find with collectors. However, in the 1988 Oechsner sale, “kk” was used with the 84-kk as the cataloguer was unfamiliar with its use by August. The reverse designation “jj” is available. Hence the new variety is now called the 73.5-jj by Richard August, the discoverer and owner.

As to other available reverses, “ll” was assigned to the re-engraved 81-ll that should be deleted (see Oechsner:1322 for details). Likewise, the 4.5-pp should be also deleted as it is a re-engraved reverse. For some reason, “mm” was never chosen, but “nn” and “oo” were. Going forward, the next new NJ reverse could be called “ll”, “mm”, “pp”, “qq”, “rr”, etc.

This is the only verified example of this variety. In the First NJ Symposium, Bill Anton described a similar coin in his collection. It may be a 73.5-aa (unique), another 73.5-jj or perhaps just a 73-aa. Until the coin is viewed, the attribution remains uncertain.



What's Wrong Here?

By Mark Kleiman, DPM

As often happens when one hopes to have discovered something unobserved for 200 years, my heart skipped a beat when I noticed



BREEN 96



BREEN 96 CUTOUT



BREEN 92



BREEN 92 CUTOUT

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the deformity of the “23” on the enclosed Breen 96, Rosa Americana Twopence. Could this be an overdate? The erratic shape of the digits appears to be missing parts of the numbers and include other parts of the numbers not found on other examples of this variety. The most intriguing area is the connecting line running from 12 o’clock to 7 o’clock on the left side of the “3” connecting the crossbar to the end of the knob.

THE PLOT THICKENS!

The enclosed photo of the Breen 92, Rosa Americana Twopence also illustrates the same numeric deformity. Could Breen 92 and 96 use the same reverse? The positioning of the crown to the “RI” of Americana would seem to rule out a common reverse.

DISAPPOINTMENT!!!

Due to the fact that 2 different varieties contain the same numeric deformity I am lead to the conclusion that a broken punch must be the thread that binds the two varieties together. The suspicious line mentioned before in the “3” may be a die crack. However, these deformed numerals may be what they looked like when they were new.

I would appreciate learning if any other Breen variety Rosa Americana Twopence contain these numerals and their frequency.



Machins Focus Group Report

By Ed Sarrafian and Richard August

Not much to report on in this issue. A new 20-87C turned up in VF-XF.

One of only seven confirmed. This piece is the 3rd finest in collector hands, with the finest piece currently in a money museum.

Thank you to all of you who contacted us regarding your special pieces. Some of these coins were choice enough to enter the condition

census. Please let us know of your finds, as they are very important in trying to get an accurate as possible condition census.



Newspaper Accounts and Court Records of Early Colonial Minters

By Marc Mayhugh

During visits to the local genealogical library I have come across two books which contain information about the early minters of colonial coins. The first book is entitled “ Notices from New Jersey Newspapers from 1781-1790” by Thomas B. Wilson; the second book is “New York City Court Records, 1760-1797”, by Kenneth Scott. Printed below are some excerpts from these books, in no particular order, along with some comments of my own. Nothing really new or revealing here, just some early references to names we are all familiar with.

Newspapers

JOHN CLEVE SYMMES: From The New Jersey Journal, Elizabethtown, 28 Feb. 1781. “John Cleve Symmes, Morristown, adv. He wishes to purchase a little farm from 50-100 acres”

* Could this advertisement have led to the purchase of “Solitude”, site of the Morristown mint?

Death notices from The New Jersey Journal, Elizabethtown, - 22 Dec 1790, We hear the Hon. John C. Symmes Esq., one of the judges of the Western Territory, was drowned in that district some time since. [note: this notice turned out to be unfounded in fact.] .

SCARCITY OF CASH: New Jersey Journal, 21 Feb. 1787. Due to the hardness of the time and lack of sufficient circulating money, a proposal is made for the formation of a company for the increase of sheep and cattle for wool and meat, for which New Jersey is well situated.... Subscriptions for shares are taken by: Col. Oliver Spencer and Dr. Halstead, Elizabethtown; Major Samuel Hayes and Mr. Joseph Banks, Newark; Daniel Marsh Esq. and major John Craig, Rahway ; Capt. John Scudder and Mr. Jesse Clark, Westfield; Col.. Samuel Potter, Turkey; Capt. Benjamin Lane, Scotch Plains; Dr. Canfield, Morristown; Stephen Day Esq. South Hanover; Capt. Elijah Squier, Canoe Brook; Mr. Walter Smith, Springfield; Dr. John Condict and Mr. John Lindsay, Orange; Col. Ellis Cook and Major Pruden Alling, N. Hanover.

- Daniel Marsh leased the Rahway mills to the minters Cox, Mould and Goadsby, Matthias Ogden providing security. His vote was also instrumental in the three obtaining permission from the New Jersey Legislature to begin coining.

DANIEL MARSH & JUDGE SYMMES: New Jersey Journal, Elizabethtown 26, Nov. 1788. Daniel Marsh adv. that all persons who have lodged certificates with Judge Symmes in payment for lands on the Ohio River may receive the indents of interest thereon by applying to him next week at the house of Major John Craig, innkeeper, Rahway.

EPHRIAM & DANIEL MARSH: Public notices, 16 July 1783 Ephriam Marsh and Daniel Marsh, Westfield. Administrators of Noah Marsh, deceased adv. they will settle accounts at the house of Capt. Thomas Kinney in Newark on the 5th and 6th August;...

*One Thomas Kinney was involved Mould's Morristown coining operation., supplying raw material to the mint. See *The Numismatist* August 1993.

NEW JERSEY COINING PROPOSALS: New Jersey Gazette, 2 July 1786. The speaker laid before the house proposals made by

Walter Mould, Thomas Goadsby and Albian Cox for striking a copper coin for the State of New Jersey; ordered that a committee confer with these gentleman and report to the house

New Jersey Gazette 3 July 1786 A petition from William Leddle Esq. With a proposal for the coining of coppers was read, whereupon the "Act for the establishment of a coinage of copper" was ordered to be engrossed.

*Both proposals are covered in Crosby but now we know they made the papers. Leddle would later become involved with Mould at the Morristown mint. Again, see Hodder's article in the Numismatist.

GOADSBY & COX PARTNERSHIP DISSOLVEMENT: New Jersey Journal , 30 January 1788. Elizabethtown: Thomas Goadsby, Elizabethtown, forewarns the public that application has been made for the purchase of goods in the name of Goadsby and Cox, but he will not be accountable for such debts as there is no partnership.

GOADSBY RESIDENCE: New Jersey Journal Elizabethtown, .23 April 1788, To be let, near the center of town, a dwelling house with a chairhouse, stable and store house with a dock adjoining, now occupied by Mr. Thomas Goadsby...

- An interesting description of one of the last residences of Thomas Goadsby.

MATTHIAS OGDEN: Independent Gazetter, Philadelphia. Proceedings of Congress, April 29, 1789... A letter from Matthias Ogden Esq. Of New Jersey, addressed to the speaker, inclosing a petition and remonstrance of a number of citizens of New Jersey alleging irregularities in their late elections. 4 May 1789

*Ogden was the motivating force behind the New Jersey coining operation

C. RUSSELL: New Jersey Journal, Elizabethtown, 4 August 1790 C. Russell , Clerk of the trustees, adv. that the Morristown Academy

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is open.

* Caleb Russell was a patron of Mould at Morristown. His involvement in the coinage of New Jersey coppers needs further investigation.

Court Records

SAMUEL ATLEE: Served as a witness for a gentleman named Perkins who was charged with assault and battery on John Galvin. 3 Nov. 1784 . Perkins is fined 3 pounds.

JAMES ATLEE and Thomas Fennell, indicted for assault and battery on John Galvin, are tried. The defendant is found not guilty. 4 Nov. 1784

WALTER MOULD: Witness for the defense of James Brebner, charged with assault on John Chalmers. Brebner is convicted and fined 40 s. 5 Nov. 1785

MATTHIAS OGDEN: is indicted for perjury. 8 Aug. 1786

BRASHER/BRASHIER, EPHRIAM: served as coroner 1786- 1790



St. Patrick's Coinage Projects

By John Griffiee

There are two projects underway regarding St. Patrick's coinage.

- 1- Stan Stephens (address in front of newsletter under club officers) is preparing a reference listing of all known coins in the hands of US collectors.
- 2- I am working on a book on these coins. It will cover more than you ever wanted to know about St. Patrick's coinage, including early history, facts about Marc Newby, enlargements of all

known die varieties (at least 200 or more), and an attribution and rarity guide.

Well-known photographer and copper expert, Bill Noyes, is the official photographer for both of the above projects.

Please help us with these two projects. Let me know if you have any of these coins, even if your collection contains only one of these coins. Stan and I will see how we can have your coin(s) photographed. Bill attends the C4, EAC, and FUN conventions, plus a limited number of additional shows on both the East and West coasts.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

John M. Griffiee



For Sale

New Jersey: 11H F \$3800, 17J VF-XF \$1500, 17K VF-XF \$2100
42c VF/XF \$5500 56n AXF \$600

Connecticut: 1787:4L VF-XF \$600, 6.1M VF-XF \$825, 25B F \$100
33.8-z.13 VF \$500, 33.25-z.10 XF \$3000
33.32-z.13 VF-XF \$300, 42-KK.2 F \$275, 46-BB F
\$500; 1788: 12.1-E AXF/XF \$550, 12.1-F.1 AXF \$900

Vermont: R2 AXF \$6500, R7 VF-XF \$1700, R9 F-VF \$800, R16
XF \$775

Machin Mills: 7-72B VF \$3000, 8-74A VF \$850, 17-87B XF \$750
21-87D VF \$600

Fugio: 3D F-VF \$450, 10-T VF-XF \$2300, 12M XF \$900, 12S VF
\$1300, 13X choice UNC \$2600, 15H VF-XF \$1200,
21-I VF \$1400

Massachusetts: Oak 6p F-VF \$3000, Pine 12p XF \$4500, VF \$2700
1787: 2bE VF \$650, 4C XF \$1000, 4D VF-XF \$700

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1788: 3A F-VF \$200, 11E AVF \$300, 12M VF \$450
½ cent XF+ \$1100

Richard August, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Unclassified Ads

Ed Sarrafian
[REDACTED]

Wanted to buy, Machins Mills Coppers!
Varieties: Vlack 4-71C, 9-76B small date, 13-87CT in any grade.
Please call, write, or ship with price desired.



Collector Selling Duplicates: E Mail or write if interested.

All have excellent "eye" appeal and good planchets
1787 Conn. Mi. 41-ii DBL AUCTOPI obv., ET IIB rev. VF weak
date, 1788 Mass. Ry. 1-D One Cent VF-30 "very nice",
1787 Verm. Ry. 14 MBR F "nice"
1788 Verm. Ry. 25 MBR VF uniformly porous but not distracting
1776 Jan 1 issue Delaware 10s currency AU-UNC (some would call
it UNC)

I will consider trades

LEO SHANE E Mail: Leo.J.Shane@honeywell.com
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



WANTING TO PURCHASE: Low grade colonial coinage, colonial
duplicates and currency, pin notes, sewn together pieces or other era

related paper items of interest. Please write me with information on your items for sale. Thank you.

Send to: Walter Deleu- C4



Desperately Wanted:

Choice Mint State Red Book Type Colonials! Getz Silver & Copper Washington Pieces, Silver Myddelton Tokens (with/without box), Gem Mint state Pillar dollars, Rarity-7 and Rarity-8 Connecticut's. Also: all early (pre 1835) US gold- especially rare dates and die varieties.

Contact Dave Wnuck at:
Coin Rarities of New England
PMB 356, 994 No. Colony Road
Wallingford, CT 06492

Fax #203-271-2476; New Web site: **www.earlycoins.com**

Call toll free any time: 800-COINS-99



“VARIETY CHECKLIST AND RARITY RATINGS FOR AMERICAN COLONIAL ISSUES AND STATE COINAGES” 23 pages covering those issues most commonly collected by variety; loose-leaf format for convenience.

Revised quantities for rarity 1,2 and 3. Corrections to the rarity ratings (yes, there will be some) will be announced in the C4 Newsletter over the years. This is a long term, evolving project.

Price: \$15.00, which includes postage. Available from:

Tom Madigan



Contact: Harold Thomas

[REDACTED]

David Bowers

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 3. **Methodology**
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Harrell H. Cherry

40

George Fuld, Sc.D.



Fuld1@home.com



Imitation halfpence coppers (Redbook group I, II and III) in VF to EF condition. All dates wanted.

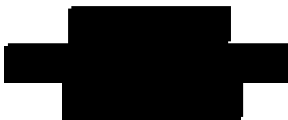
Please call Min at [REDACTED], or E-mail at Unifilis @aol.com



Wanted, cull to mid-grade:
Virginia halfpennies
Colonial and Continental currency

Also wanted: biographical information on the lesser known signers of Continental and colonial currency. Will pay for referenced information I don't have.

David Consolvo



historiccoins@firstva.com



I am currently researching Massachusetts Bay Colony silver coinage. Any information or new thoughts which are not addressed in the basics (Noe, Crosby, Breen, Durst, etc,) would be appreciated. Intermediary die states, contemporary counterfeits, high quality fabrications, witch pieces, etc. Correspondence desired. Also buying low grade, clipped, holed, mutilated, witch pieces. Thank you.

Spring, 2001

Geoffrey Stevens

Pattinbpt@.mediaone.net

Visit my new web site www.USColonials.com. I will post and describe for free any COLONIAL over \$199-see the web site for the sellers' terms for full details. Contact Mike@USColonials.com or at **Michael Wierzb**

Collector wishes to purchase for top dollar: 1793 Liberty Cap cent, AG to F; Immune(Immunis) Columbia; Chalmers shilling; Auctori Plebis; Oak Tree Shilling; Rhode Island Ship Medal; Pitt token. These coins will be cherished. Thank you. Frank Vivalo- [REDACTED]

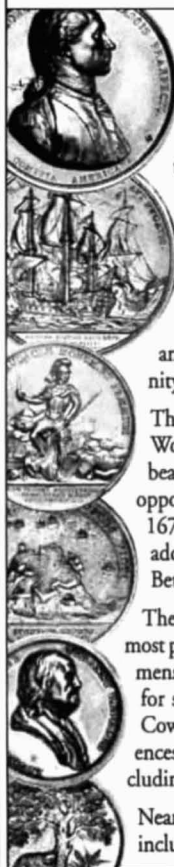
Richard August

Wanted: Rare die varieties or choice grades of: Massachusetts copper and silver, Vermonts (especially Ryder 30 to 39), Machin Mills 1/2d, Fugios, New Jerseys, Connecticut; also colonial currency and medals.

Bowers and Merena Galleries Presents...

THE CABINET OF LUCIEN M. LARIVIERE

Part III • May 21, 2001 • New York City

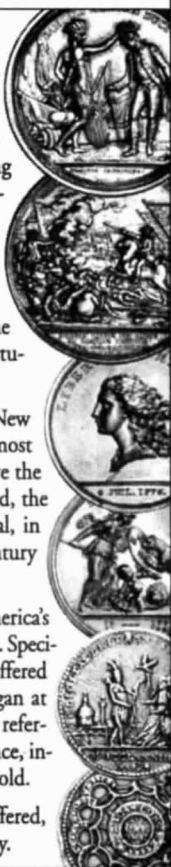


Bowers and Merena Galleries is proud to announce our upcoming sale of the third and final part of the renowned medal collection of Lucien M. LaRiviere, to be sold at public auction in New York City, May 21, 2001. LaRiviere's eye for quality and his inclusion of great rarities has made the previous two sessions record-breaking events, including the new world record price for an American medal. The final session focuses on issues relating to the earliest colonization of America and the period of the American Revolution, with important inclusions of medals relating to captured treasure and military actions in the Caribbean. The catalogue is bound to become an important reference in the field – do not miss your opportunity to get a copy and participate in this landmark event!

The presence of Spain, Portugal, and the Netherlands in the New World is well represented in medallistic form by some of the most beautiful medals of the period. Advanced specialists will have the opportunity to compete for two extremely rare medals in gold, the 1670 Colonization medal and the 1747 Lord Anson medal, in addition to one of the largest selections of 16th and 17th century Betts medals ever offered in America.

The period of the American Revolution spawned some of America's most prized medallistic art and most important numismatic artifacts. Specimens of nearly every original Comitia Americana medal are offered for sale, including the Libertas Americana and Daniel Morgan at Cowpens in silver. Additional British medals with American references and early medallistic recognitions of American independence, including the famed "Linked Rings" medal (Betts-614), will be sold.

Nearly 200 lots of colonial and pre-federal coins will also be offered, including an impressive array of New Jersey coppers by variety.



The auction can be viewed in its entirety on our website, www.bowersandmerena.com. Bids may be entered online, faxed, or mailed.

Superbly illustrated Grand Format catalogues are now available and we invite you to order yours for \$30 plus shipping. Copies may be purchased at our website, as well as by mail or telephone. Add the catalogue of this incredible reference collection to your library – and plan to participate! Any collection of early American coins would be enriched by the addition of contemporary medals handled and prized by the most influential men of the period, so do not miss this unique opportunity.

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